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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT

SUBJECT 15th Company of the 4th Battalion
of the 12th Border Guard Brigade

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report on the order of battle of the 15th Company, of the 4th Battalion (located in Rozvadov), of the 12th Border Guard Brigade. The report contains information on the organization of the unit, the sector of the border for which it is responsible, arms and equipment available, and personalities. Points of interest in the area are described and pinpointed on an accompanying map section in the scale of 1.25,000.

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Military/Political

Order of Battle of the 15th Frontier Company of the 4th Battalion of the
12th Frontier Guard Brigade

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1. Organisation

a) The 15th Company is subordinate to the 4th Battalion, ROZVADOV, and guards a sector 4,800 m long, North of the main ROZVADOV - WAIDHAUS road into Germany. The right-hand contact point is at boundary stone ²⁵ 4 and the sector adjoins that of the 14th Company, JEDLINA, which is subordinate to the 3rd Battalion, LESNA. The left-hand contact point is at boundary stone ²⁸ 5, where the sector guarded by the 16th Company, Na kopecku, begins on the North side of the ROZVADOV - WAIDHAUS road.

b) The Company numbers 47, including officers and NCOs, but only 38 of these are available for active service. The personnel are distributed as follows:

Special duties section: 2 cooks, 1 despatch rider, 1 radio operator, 4 mounted guards

Weapons include 4 model 24 7.62 mm machine carbines and 4 model 52 7.62 mm rifles.

Dog trainer section: 7 men, including one NCO, armed with model 24 machine carbines

No. 1 Infantry Section: 12 men incl. CO (NCO); weapons include:

1 model 52 7.62 mm LMG
1 anti-tank gun
4 model 52 7.62 mm rifles
8 model 24 7.62 mm machine carbines

No. 2 Infantry Section: 12 men; weapons as for No. 1 Section

HMG section: 4 men, including CO (NCO), armed with:

1 GORYUNOV 7.62 mm HMG
3 model 34 7.62 mm machine carbines
1 model 52 7.62 mm rifle

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2. Arms and equipment

1 GORYUNOV 7.62 mm HMG
4 model 52 7.62 mm LMGs
4 anti-tank guns
400 RG 4 hand grenades

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20 model 52 7.62 mm self-loading r. fles
 25 model 24 7.62 mm machine carbines
 5 model 52 7.62 mm pistols
 43 knives
 8 flare pistols
 6,000 rounds for HMG and model 52 rifle
 2,000 rounds for pistol and machine carbine
 4,000 rounds for HMG

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8 pairs of field glasses and 1 telescope
 43 pairs of handcuffs
 12 pairs of folding field headphones
 2 short wave R 24 receiving and transmitting sets
 1 telephone switchboard for 38 lines
 2 field telephones

1 JAWA 250 cc motorcycle, [redacted] black figures
 on a white plate
 6 riding horses and 2 cart horses
 7 dogs - all bitchos

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3. System of guard duties

As the wire barrier was being reconstructed, and guard duties would depend on the location of towers, tunnels and gates which had not been set up, no system of duties had been established. The towers at the two contact points are manned throughout the 24 hours.

4. Personalities

a) CO of No. 15 Company: Senior Lieutenant PALENIK, Bratislav [redacted]

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b) 2 i/c of No. 15 Company: Senior Lieutenant CEITHAMMER, fmu, [redacted]

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c) Political officer: Lieutenant KVAČEK, fmu, [redacted]

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5. Layout of sector (see map)

1) Old wire barrier: in September, 1956, replacement of this fencing, which is in a very poor state, was begun.

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2) New wire barrier: this has been ~~pegged~~ out, and appears to follow a different line from the old one, further from the frontier. The building of the barrier was being carried out by the Engineers' Section of the 12th Brigade, and by about November 1956, only the Southern sector from boundary stone ²⁸ 5 to stone ²⁷ 4 had been completed.

The length of the new sector is about 1,000 m., and in this part the new barrier follows the old one, except that it has no bends in it.

In some places, new clearings in the forest, which are about 15 m wide, will have to be made. [] the

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construction of the new barrier was continued, no longer following the line of the old one, but running straight from the dried up pond at trig point 538 to the contact point with No. 14 Company, which has not changed its position. The new barrier has now probably been completed. It is the standard type, 210 cm high, with three fences, and 250 cm wide. The middle fence has seven wires carrying 4,000 volt current.

3) No. 15 Company HQ, in the former village of REICHENHAL, of which only the school is still standing. The HQ consists of two wooden huts, one 25 x 15 m, used for the men's quarters, and one 20 x 20 m., used as stables; both are white-washed, and are in the middle of the former village, on the North side of the REICHENHAL - NOVE DUMKY road.

4) Gymnasium, in former village school

5) Two log houses, wooden, one-storyed, 20 x 18 m., also belonging to the HQ and used as quarters for officers and their families, offices and store for arms and equipment,

6) Observation towers: since the wire barrier is still under construction, neither the positions nor the number of towers can be given; the two contact points will probably remain in the same position, and a new tower, known as No. 18, was built in Autumn 1956, level with boundary stone ²⁸ 2, for observing German territory; the tower used for observing German territory at Company HQ, which is equipped

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with a telescope, will also probably remain in position.

7) New ento in the former village of ARNSTIN HAMR, on the old "smugglers' path", manned at dawn and dusk. There will be more gates on the REICHENTHAL - REICHENAU road and at the right-hand contact point, near the tower known as No. 14.

8) Guard post in the former village of MLYNSKE DOMKY, on the embankment between two ponds, manned at dusk and dawn by two guards.

A new ploughed strip is being made at the same time as the new

barrier, [] a chock is kept on it every day, but since it is only attended to at intervals of from 2 to 3 months, it is of no use after one month, as the surface hardens and no chocking is possible.

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